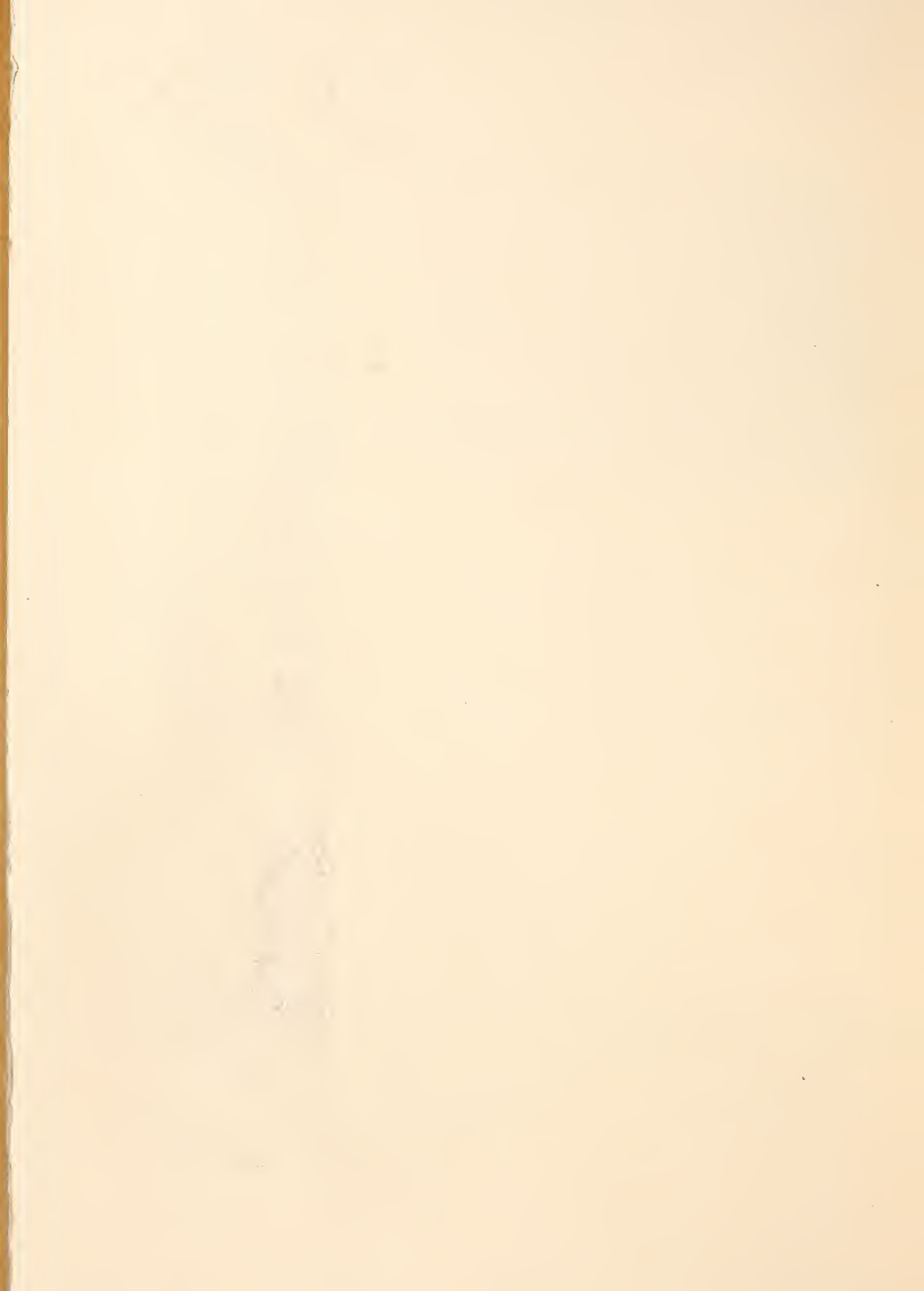


Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



F

Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS



VOLUME 59

NUMBER 14

COTTON (World Stocks, Production and Trade)
(Page 329)

LATE NEWS (Page 328)

CONTENTS

	Page
COTTON AND OTHER FIBER	
World Cotton Production and Trade Rise; Stocks Changes Slight.....	329
Cotton-Price Quotations on World Markets.....	332
Cuban Cotton Consumption Declines.....	334
FATS AND OILS	
Paraguayan Oilseed Situation Improves.....	337
Switzerland's Fats and Oils Position Satisfactory.....	338
U.K. Trade in Specified Fats and Oils.....	340
LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS	
Successor Organization to J. O. Wool Plan Contemplated...	335
Australia's Dairy Production Rises.....	335
TOBACCO	
Canada's Leaf Tobacco Stocks and Consumption Higher.....	330
Southern Rhodesia's Tobacco Export Levy Suspended for 1949-50 Season.....	331

FOR RELEASE

MONDAY

OCTOBER 3, 1949

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

L A T E N E W S

Canadian import restrictions are removed, effective October 1, on all fresh deciduous fruit, fresh citrus fruit, fresh berries, vegetables in their natural state, and all fruit juices. The announcement was made in Ottawa September 26, by Finance Minister Douglas Abbott. He said that further relaxation of import controls would depend on future developments in the Canadian exchange position.

United States products most immediately affected are grapes and pears, and cranberries, which, except for the current embargo, ordinarily would be moving into Canadian markets at this season. Other fruits included (but whose season is now past) are apricots, cherries, peaches, plums, fresh prunes, quince, and nectarines.

The Canadian action is significant to the United States vegetable industry in that it permits a free flow of all winter vegetables into Canada. The largest single United States vegetable item which Canada purchases in the United States is tomatoes. The other leading Canadian vegetable imports are lettuce, carrots, cabbage, celery and spinach. Canada relaxed the import restrictions on most of these items for short periods early in 1948 and late in 1948 and early in 1949 restrictions were suspended on all of them and continued up to this time.

For the calendar year 1948 the trade in tomatoes as well as celery, lettuce and spinach was only a fraction of the exports during years before the restrictions were imposed. Asparagus, green beans, beets, cauliflower, cucumbers, peas, melons and certain other vegetables have been banned entirely since November 1947 when the restrictions were imposed.

Under the original order, imports of fresh citrus fruits and juices, apples, potatoes, sweet potatoes, and onions were allowed into Canada on the basis of 50 percent of imports according to

(Continued on Page 342)

FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

Published weekly to inform producers, processors, distributors and consumers of farm products of current developments abroad in the crop and livestock industries, foreign trends in prices and consumption of farm products, and world agricultural trade. Circulation of this periodical is free to those needing the information it contains in farming, business and professional operations. Issued by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D.C.

WORLD COTTON PRODUCTION AND TRADE RISE; STOCKS CHANGE SLIGHTLY

World stocks of cotton on August 1, 1949; estimated at 14.7 million bales (including nearly 500,000 bales afloat, in overland transit, and held in bond and free ports), closely approximated the total of the year before with an indicated increase of less than 150,000 bales.

This year marks a turn in the trend of stocks, which, after a long wartime climb to 28.5 million bales on August 1, 1945, underwent a continuous and precipitate decline to August 1948. A sharp increase of stocks in the United States from August 1948 to August 1949 of 2.2 million bales was largely offset by sharp decreases in India, Brazil, and China. Importing countries, other than India and China, increased their holdings by a total of about 300,000 bales.

A world production of 30 million bales in the 1949-50 season is now indicated. This is 1.1 million bales larger than the crop of 1948-49. It is about equal to the prewar average if the all-time record crop of 1937-38 is omitted. If the present prospects are realized, this crop will be some 40 and 39 percent respectively larger than those of 1945-46 and 1946-47; and 1949-50 will be the fourth successive year to show an increase over its predecessor. The United States, which contributed heavily to the increases in 1947-48 and 1948-49, promises a crop in 1949-50 about as large as the year before. Most of this season's increase is accounted for by India, Egypt, Mexico, Turkey, and possibly Brazil.

International trade rose sharply in 1948-49. World exports totaled 10.75 million bales, an increase of 1.9 millions over 1947-48. This is the best year's total since the war, though still considerably below the prewar figure which normally fluctuated around 13 million bales. Exports from African countries show an increase of about 300,000 bales in all, accounted for in part by Egypt but mainly by the Sudan, British East Africa, and French Equatorial Africa. Turkey also increased. The greatest increase, however, was shown by the United States, exports in 1948-49 of 4.75 million bales being 2.2 million bales more than in 1947-48. Exports from Brazil, Pakistan, and India were so sharply down, however, that the increase in the world total was less than that of the United States alone. Exports from the United States benefited from the operation of the Economic Cooperation Administration and special credit programs, as well as from the low level of supplies in some of the other exporting countries.

More detailed review of world cotton stocks, production, and trade will appear separately in early issues of Foreign Crops and Markets.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. For this report, the Committee was composed of Joseph A. Becker, Chairman, A. W. Palmer, Charles H. Barber, Glenn A. Ruggles, Dwight R. Bishop, and Lazar Volin.

COMMODITY DEVELOPMENTS

TOBACCOCANADA'S LEAF TOBACCO STOCKS
AND CONSUMPTION HIGHER

Canada's stocks of unmanufactured tobacco on June 30, 1949, were 13 percent above the same date in 1948, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Leaf used in the manufacture of tobacco products during the first 6 months of 1949 was 11 percent above the January-June 1948 consumption.

The country's stocks of leaf on June 30, 1949, totaled 155.6 million pounds. On the same date in 1948 stocks totaled 137.8 million pounds, and in 1947 they totaled 136.3 million pounds. The June 30 stocks for the 5 years, 1942 through 1946, averaged 117.2 million pounds.

Stocks of Canadian grown leaf on June 30 totaled 152.1 million pounds and represented 98 percent of the total. Of the 152.1 million pounds of Canadian tobacco, 118 million pounds, or 78 percent, was flue-cured leaf. This compares with 109 million pounds, or 81 percent, on June 30, 1948. Burley stocks totaled 17.4 million pounds, as compared with 14.1 million pounds on June 30, 1948. In addition to flue-cured and Burley, stocks of Canadian leaf on June 30, 1949, included 10.3 million pounds of cigar, 2.4 million pounds of dark air-cured and fire-cured, 4 million pounds of pipe tobacco and small quantities of other types.

Imported leaf stocks totaled 3.5 million pounds and represented about 2 percent of the total on June 30, 1949. Foreign-grown tobacco on hand as of that date consisted of 2.2 million pounds of cigar leaf, about 156,000 pounds of flue-cured, 22,000 pounds of Burley and 1.1 million pounds of other types.

Leaf used in the manufacture of tobacco products for the 6 months ending June 30, 1949, totaled 39.3 million pounds, or a monthly average of over 6.5 million pounds. This compares with 36.4 million pounds, or a monthly average of about 6.1 million pounds for the first 6 months of 1948.

During the January-June 1949 period 23.9 million pounds of leaf, or a monthly average of about 4 million pounds, was used in the manufacture of cigarettes, as compared with 21.7 million pounds, or a monthly average of 3.6 million pounds during the first 6 months of 1948.

Leaf used in the manufacture of cigars totaled 1.6 million pounds during the first half of 1949, or about 138,000 pounds more than during the same period of 1948. The manufacture of other tobacco products consumed 13.7 million pounds of leaf in the first 6 months of 1949, as compared with 13.2 million pounds during the January-June 1948 period.

SOUTHERN RHODESIA'S TOBACCO EXPORT LEVY SUSPENDED FOR 1949-50 SEASON

The 15 percent tobacco savings contribution levy which was imposed on the export of flue-cured tobacco from Southern Rhodesia's 1948-49 crop is to be suspended for the 1949-50 crop, according to the American Embassy in Pretoria.

The Prime Minister of Southern Rhodesia announced on August 23 the suspension of the levy and further stated that if it was found necessary to raise more revenue or loan funds, any tax or loan would be spread over a extended a field as possible. This indicates that any future taxation or loan program which the Government may find necessary to impose will be made applicable to as many economic groups as possible and not confined to one segment of the economy, as was the levy on flue-cured tobacco exports.

The Tobacco Savings Contribution Act, better known as the "Compulsory Savings Plan" was passed by the Southern Rhodesian Parliament on June 2, 1949. This Act provided for 15 percent of growers' receipts from all or any portion of their 1948-49 flue-cured tobacco crop which was sold for export to be turned over to the Government as a 5-year loan. The Act resulted from the Governments' need for additional funds and the fact that during the past several years flue-cured growers have been in an extremely favorable position. During and since the war the price of tobacco, which is an export crop, remained uncontrolled, while the prices for food crops, which are consumed within the country, were strictly controlled.

The Southern Rhodesian Government is encouraging the tobacco industry in its program of expanding flue-cured production. The official goal is the production of 115 million pounds of flue-cured leaf by 1952-53. This compares with the official estimate of 79.8 million pounds in 1948-49, 75.4 million pounds in 1947-48 and an annual average of 41.8 million pounds during the five years 1942-43 through 1946-47. The Government is stressing the importance of increasing production of tobacco through higher yields per acre.

COTTON AND OTHER FIBER

(Week ending September 23, 1949)

COTTON-PRICE QUOTATIONS
ON WORLD MARKETS

The following table shows certain cotton-price quotations on foreign markets converted at current rates of exchange.

COTTON: Spot prices in certain foreign markets, and the
U. S. gulf-port average

Market location, kind, and quality	Date 1949	Unit of weight	Unit of currency	Price in foreign currency	Equivalent U.S. cents per pound
<u>Alexandria</u>		Kantar			
Ashmouni, Good.....	9-22	99.05 lbs.	Tallari	57.00	33.05
Ashmouni, F.G.F.....	"	"	"	55.00	31.89
Karnak, Good.....	"	"	"	(not quoted)	
Karnak, F.G.F.....	"	"	"	(not quoted)	
<u>Bombay</u>		Candy			
Jarila, Fine.....	9-22	784 lbs.	Rupee	(not quoted)	
Broach Vijay, Fine.....	"	"	"	(not quoted)	
<u>Karachi</u>		Maund			
4F Punjab, S.G., Fine....	9-21	82.28 lbs.	"	1/ 78.00	28.60
289F Sind, S.G., Fine....	"	"	"	1/ 80.00	29.33
289F Punjab, S.G., Fine...	"	"	"	1/ 84.00	30.80
<u>Buenos Aires</u>		Metric ton			
Type B.....	9-22	2204.6 lbs.	Peso	1/ 4000.00	54.03
<u>Lima</u>		Sp. quintal			
Tanguis, Type 5.....	9-22	101.4 lbs.	Sol	(not quoted)	
Pima, Type 1.....	"	"	"	(not quoted)	
<u>Recife</u>		Arroba			
Mata, Type 4.....		33.07 lbs.	Cruzeiro		
Sertao, Type 5.....	9-22	"	"	210.00	34.55
<u>Sao Paulo</u>					
Sao Paulo, Type 5.....	9-22	"	"	203.00	33.40
<u>Torreón</u>		Sp. quintal			
Midling, 15/16".....	9-22	101.4 lbs.	Peso	201.00	22.94
<u>Houston-Galveston-New</u>					
Orleans av. Mid. 15/16"	9-22	Pound	Cent	XXXX	29.60

Quotations of foreign markets reported by cable from U. S. Foreign Service posts abroad. U. S. quotations from designated spot markets.

1/ Nominal.

(Week ending September 30)

COTTON-PRICE QUOTATIONS
ON WORLD MARKETS

The following table shows certain cotton-price quotations on foreign markets converted at current rates of exchange.

COTTON: Spot prices in certain foreign markets, and the
U. S. gulf-port average

Market location, kind, and quality	Date 1949	Unit of weight	Unit of currency	Price in foreign currency	Equivalent U.S. cents per pound
<u>Alexandria</u>		Kantar			
Ashmouni, Good.....	9-29	99.05 lbs.	Tallari	55.55	32.20
Ashmouni, F.G.F.....	"	"	"	53.80	31.19
Karnak, Good.....	"	"	"	(not quoted)	
Karnak, F.G.F.....	"	"	"	(not quoted)	
<u>Bombay</u>		Candy			
Jarila, Fine.....	"	784 lbs.	Rupee	1/ 620.00	16.46
Broach, Vijay, Fine.....	"	"	"	690.00	18.32
<u>Karachi</u>		Maund			
4F Punjab, S.G., Fine....	9-28	82.28 lbs.	"	72.00	26.40
239F Sind, S.G., Fine....	"	"	"	76.00	27.87
289F Punjab, S.G., Fine....	"	"	"	80.00	29.33
<u>Buenos Aires</u>		Metric ton			
Type B.....	9-29	2204.6 lbs.	Peso	1/4000.00	54.03
<u>Lima</u>		Sp. quintal			
Tanguis, Type 5.....	"	101.4 lbs.	Sol	(not quoted)	
Pima, Type 1.....	"	"	"	(not quoted)	
<u>Recife</u>		Arroba			
Mata, Type 4.....	"	33.07 lbs.	Cruzeiro		
Sertao, Type 5.....	"	"	"	210.00	34.55
<u>Sao Paulo</u>					
Sao Paulo, Type 5.....	"	"	"	199.00	32.74
<u>Torreon</u>		Sp. quintal			
Middling, 15/16".....	"	101.4 lbs.	Peso	208.00	23.73
<u>Houston-Galveston-New</u>					
Orleans av. Mid. 15/16"....	"	Pound	Cent	XXXXX	29.20

Quotations of foreign markets reported by cable from U.S. Foreign Service posts abroad. U. S. quotations from designated spot markets.

1/ Nominal.

CUBAN COTTON CONSUMPTION
DECLINES 1/

Cotton consumption in Cuba in the 1948-49 season continued the downward trend which began in 1945-46 and was reported at only 19,863 bales (500 pounds gross weight) during the past season. This is a 35-percent decline from the 30,761 bales consumed in the 1947-48 season and 15,000 bales under the record consumption of 35,953 bales in 1945-46.

This drop in consumption was the result of a combination of inter-related factors, such as weakening of consumer buying power, lessening demand for cotton textiles in general, unduly heavy stocks of textile material, strong competition from lower-priced imported textiles, and continuing labor difficulties. The Cuban cotton industry is faced with the problem of competing with imported textiles, for which prices have been declining, while having to pay relatively high wages to mill workers.

The Cuban Government, at the instance of cotton mill operators and their workers, established import controls on all textiles on July 8, 1948. These controls resulted in a virtual embargo, inasmuch as importers could not effectively comply with the complicated system of controls. After the United States termed the measure a violation of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade at the Geneva meeting in August, it was drastically modified on September 14, 1948, by the withdrawal of all restrictions excepting those regulating imports of cotton waste and prohibiting imports of remnants.

The textile mills and mill workers are continuing their campaign for increased tariff protection. The Cuban Government has considered a tax on local and imported textiles, the proceeds of which would be used to subsidize the industry, as well as other remedies. The controversy, however, over imported versus domestic textiles still remains unsolved.

In the face of weakening textile prices and demand and of local business uncertainties, and in anticipation of lower cotton prices, the Cuban cotton industry reduced its raw cotton imports by 29 percent and stocks by 70 percent during the 1948-49 season. Raw cotton stocks on August 1, 1949, were reported at 2,915 bales, or less than two months' supply at current rates of consumption. The mills are buying raw cotton in small lots on a guaranteed, quick-delivery basis. As shipments of cotton from other countries usually require considerable time to reach Cuba, this policy has worked in favor of United States cotton.

The outlook for 1949-50 will remain uncertain until the basis for the settlement of the question of imported textiles is known. Continued shrinkages in gross income and wages from the sugar industry are anticipated, indicating a further weakening of consumer buying power and demand for cotton textiles. Inventories of textiles are large in some categories and are moving slowly; prices are weak and uncertain. Textile

1/ Based on a report by Louis C. Nolan, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Habana.

production schedules are geared down as nearly as possible to the limited going market demand. Because of these factors, it is believed raw cotton purchases will continue to be made on a short-term, quick-delivery basis. Inasmuch as Cuban mills can buy best from the United States on this basis, Cuba will probably obtain most of its 1949-50 cotton requirements from the United States if present price relationships are maintained.

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATION TO J.O. WOOL PLAN CONTEMPLATED

Wool growers in the British Dominions of Australia, New Zealand and the Union of South Africa are looking beyond the end of the Joint Organization on June 30, 1950. Plans are being made in all the Dominions to have some marketing organization ready to take over when the present authority has expired. The 1945 London agreement which established the Joint Organization provided that the 4 governments concerned should review the scheme in 1950 and make some arrangements for its liquidation or continuance.

Producers have been impressed by the operation of the J. O. and are convinced that some plan to promote orderly marketings is essential. All of the Dominions have advanced proposals along somewhat the same lines as the present organization, using the "floor price" plan of reserve prices as the major feature. While this system has been successful in a period of expanding wool consumption, producer groups in the Dominions foresee certain difficulties in a period of declining demand.

The major departure from the old scheme is the proposal to extend an invitation to consumer countries to participate as well as producers. Another innovation in the South African, and possibly proposals of other Dominions, would give the producers the right of appeal with regard to the fixation of minimum prices of wool by appraisers.

AUSTRALIA'S DAIRY PRODUCTION RISES

Output of all dairy products in Australia in the 1948-49 season (July-June) increased approximately 4 percent over 1947-48, and 21 percent over prewar. Conditions in the opening months of the season were not very favorable for dairy production, but in the last 6 months showed considerable improvement. In these months, dairy cattle numbers increased, stock was in good condition, and feed supplies were satisfactory.

(Table on following page)

AUSTRALIA: Production of dairy products, 1948-49,
with comparisons

Season beginning July 1	Butter	Cheese	Condensed milk	Concentrated milk	Powdered milk 1/	Infants' food 2/
	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds
Prewar Average.....	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1946.....	437,032	49,111	38,110	3,407	22,908	2,452
1947.....	311,039	94,553	92,399	21,024	42,493	18,932
1948.....	352,339	92,313	103,049	29,685	45,211	20,046
July.....	17,696	4,603	5,056	1,095	1,734	1,774
August.....	23,345	6,978	6,818	1,678	2,423	1,969
September.....	29,893	10,322	10,024	2,531	4,791	2,345
October.....	39,171	13,341	14,224	2,717	7,804	1,774
November.....	40,716	13,039	16,341	2,751	8,326	1,611
December.....	41,420	11,946	14,161	3,300	7,605	1,673
January.....	38,331	9,677	9,236	3,205	6,781	1,664
February.....	31,936	6,724	6,498	3,275	4,963	1,994
March.....	34,474	7,112	3,844	3,109	4,276	1,935
April.....	27,245	5,495	6,731	2,618	4,401	1,676
May.....	20,498	4,169	5,560	1,516	2,823	1,700
June.....	16,336	3,537	5,067	1,483	2,193	1,929
Total.....	361,061	96,943	103,560	29,278	58,120	22,044

1/ Includes powdered whole and skim, but not powdered buttermilk. 2/ Includes invalids' food, malted milk and sugar of milk.

Butter production increased only 2 percent over 1947-48, amounting to 361 million pounds, but this was the largest quantity produced in any one year since 1942-43. Output of cheese in 1948-49 was 5 percent higher than the preceding year, and the largest production in years of record.

In the new season, July and August weather was unfavorable for production, but conditions since have greatly improved in all states, with the exception of South Australia and Tasmania, and prospects for an upward trend in production in the coming months are generally good.

CORRECTION

In the table of World Production of Dairy Products, Second Quarter 1949, in Foreign Crops and Markets of September 26, 1949, production in the Netherlands, Second Quarter 1949, should be 33,510 thousand pounds (not 23,510 thousand).

FATS AND OILS

PARAGUAYAN OILSEED SITUATION IMPROVES

Paraguay produced about 80 percent of domestic edible oil requirements during the 1948-49 crop year, according to the American Embassy, Asuncion.

Cottonseed production in 1949 was over half again as great as in the preceding year despite the partial destruction of the cotton crop by a new insect, the mosquilla. Commercial output is estimated at almost 24,000 short tons compared with 15,000 tons in 1948. This year's oil yield was 2,200 tons.

The two peanut crops of the 1948-49 season totaled approximately 2,800 tons, of which 2,300 were crushed for oil, yielding about 460 tons. This year's output was more than double that of last year as a result of the Government's minimum price of 500 guaranies per metric ton (\$147 per short ton) compared with 250 guaranies (\$73) for the preceding year. The price for the 1949-50 crop will be reduced to 350 guaranies (\$103).

The entire Paraguayan crop of sunflowers, 1,200 acres in all, was lost to insects. There appear to be 4 principal reasons for the small plantings of sunflower in Paraguay. First, farmers are not familiar with the plant. Second, prices have been such that production of peanuts, a popular crop, has proved more profitable. Third, the farmer can raise 2 crops of peanuts per year, but only one of sunflower. Finally, the yield of peanuts per acre is greater than that of sunflower seed.

The present outlook indicates a still smaller edible oil supply next year. Peanut oil production will probably drop because of the lower guaranteed price. Cottonseed production may depend on the success achieved in combating the devastating now fly. Sunflower seed oil output will probably be negligible.

The palm harvest, which was about average, will produce from 1,650 to 2,200 tons of palm oil and probably from 3,850 to 4,400 tons of palm kernel oil. Prices at the de-pulping plant for the 1949 harvest averaged 51 guaranies per metric ton (\$15) for whole fruit and between 600 and 700 guaranies (\$176 and \$206) for kernels. These prices are about the same as in 1948. The latter part of August palm oil and palm kernel oil were selling at \$250 per metric ton (\$227 per short ton) in Asuncion. This is a little over half the 1948 price. Paraguay could produce and export more palm oil and palm kernel oil if roads were improved so that modern transportation methods could be used. It is estimated that with good roads production could be doubled immediately.

Tung nut production in 1949 was up sharply from the year before. It is estimated that 4,400 to 5,500 tons were marketed. The increased output resulted from the absence of grasshoppers which seriously damaged the crop in 1948, higher prices for tung oil, and the harvest of the first crop of nuts from trees coming into bearing. Tung nut production is expected to be even higher in 1950 because domestic tung oil now can compete in world markets.

Castor bean and oil production are in line with previous estimates with 1,700 to 2,200 tons of beans harvested, yielding between 600 and 800 tons of oil. Castor oil, like tung oil, can now be offered on the world market by Paraguayan exporters at competitive prices. Paraguayan castor oil, which in 1948 was priced at \$630 per metric ton (\$572 per short ton) c.i.f. Buenos Aires, was down to \$250 (\$227) in August 1949. Since oil producers can now sell their product, nearly all of which is exported as there is no industrial use for it in Paraguay, they are able to offer farmers a satisfactory price for the beans. Consequently, production in 1950 is expected to increase by at least half.

SWITZERLAND'S FATS AND OILS POSITION SATISFACTORY

Switzerland's fats and oils situation has improved recently, despite a reduction in the output of rapeseed. A report from the American Embassy, Zurich, indicates that the market situation has become normal, supplies are satisfactory, and that no shortages are expected.

In 1948 Switzerland produced only 1,300 short tons of oil from domestically-produced rapeseed compared with 3,300 in 1947. The growing of rapeseed was introduced as an emergency measure during the war, but production has since decreased. Acreage dropped from 12,400 acres in 1947 to 6,350 in 1948. Estimates place the 1949 acreage at less than 7,000, and for 1950 the Swiss Government has guaranteed to purchase the rapeseed harvest from not more than 6,200 acres, with the understanding, however, that the grower repurchase his share of the oilcake.

Consumption of fats and oils in Switzerland in 1948 was higher than in 1947 but slightly below 1938. Rationing was abolished as of July 1, 1948.

Imports of edible and industrial oils in 1948 amounted to over 35,000 tons compared with 26,000 in 1947. Oilseed imports for the same years were 66,800 and 63,000 tons, respectively. Fats and oils imports were decontrolled October 1, 1949, at which time "OLFET", Switzerland's central buying office for edible oils and oilseeds, ceased to exist. As a result importers are able to buy on the open market provided they comply with the Government's decree of April 29, 1949, and maintain a constant stockpile of one-third of their annual imports.

Swiss oil mills are concerned over the increasing imports of refined peanut oil from the United States. Apart from the danger of not being able to operate at full capacity, officials indicate that the resultant shortage of oilcake represents a serious threat to the Swiss cattle industry.

Stocks on hand as of June 30, 1949, of all vegetable and animal oils for human consumption totaled 27,500 tons.

As of January 1, 1949, price ceilings were lifted on a large number of non-edible oils, with the proviso that price control would be re-introduced if prices should begin to rise unduly.

Permission was recently granted by the Swiss Food Ministry for the storing of food supplies in Swiss lakes. The first 50 tons of coconut oil were submerged in the Lake of Lucerne on July 1, 1949. It is proposed to store 55,000 tons eventually in this lake. This oil, in specially treated barrels, will remain there for one to two years at a temperature of 8 degrees Centigrade. During the war, foodstuffs other than oil were submerged for several years without loss or damage. This novel form of storage is inexpensive, and renders fire and theft insurance unnecessary.

U. K. TRADE IN SPECIFIED
FATS AND OILS

The following tables show the United Kingdom exports and imports of specified fats and oils during January-June 1949, with comparisons:

UNITED KINGDOM: Exports of specified fats and oils,
January-June 1949, with comparisons

Commodity	1938	January-June	
		1948 1/	1949 1/
	1,000	1,000	1,000
	pounds	pounds	pounds
Cottonseed oil, unrefined.....	16,578	2/	2/
Cottonseed oil, refined.....	6,817	2/	2/
Peanut oil, unrefined.....	81,583	2/	2/
Soybean oil, refined.....	14,343	2/	2/
Linseed oil.....	27,017	2/	2/
Castor oil.....	13,756	2/	2/
Other vegetable oils, n.e.s....	36,320	10,797	14,043
Cooking fats.....	8,297	3,448	5,424
Margarine.....	5,296	6,556	4,838
Tallow.....	20,653	2/	2/
Stearine.....	5,750	2/	2/
Animal oils except marine			
animal oils and fats,			
unrefined.....	32,487	856	4,585
Animal oils, including fish			
oils, refined.....	9,477	2,192	2,238
Whale oil, unrefined.....	4,464	2/	2/
Other fish and marine animal			
oils, unrefined.....	7,540	468	1,012
Soap stock.....	5,477	2/	2/
Soap.....	81,338	30,435	44,584

1/ Preliminary.

2/ Not shown separately in monthly publication.

Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom.

**UNITED KINGDOM: Imports of specified fats and oils,
January-June 1949, with comparisons**

Commodity	1938	January-June	
		1948 1/	1949 1/
	1,000	1,000	1,000
	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>
Cottonseed.....	1,390,010	58,847	166,611
Cottonseed oil, unrefined.....	11,800	12,430	21,354
Peanuts:			
In the shell.....	18,285	143,284	139,599
Shelled.....	712,826	385,580	382,372
Soybeans.....	220,770	2,283	16,065
Soybean oil, unrefined.....	7,188	4,921	381
Stillingia oil(Tallow seed oil)raw	2/	4,052	4,579
Sunflower and safflower seed oil..	2	29,042	39,747
Olive oil, unrefined.....	10,667	3/	3/
Olive oil, refined.....	9,851	3,293	7,679
Copra.....	254,625	93,180	64,037
Coconut oil, unrefined.....	79,865	103,098	49,052
Coconut oil, refined.....	5,843	3/	3/
Palm kernels.....	299,022	365,163	428,879
Palm oil, unrefined.....	294,491	197,550	167,823
Peanut oil, unrefined.....	-	14,343	15,492
Flaxseed.....	619,042	41,691	89,154
Linseed oil.....	42,184	68,795	41,707
Castor-beans.....	71,221	9,276	7,847
Castor oil.....	7,654	23,137	-
Rapeseed.....	47,374	3/	3/
Rapeseed oil.....	2/	6,617	222
Tung oil.....	17,111	10,526	14,889
Other oilseeds 4/	16,851	32,469	40,230
Other vegetable oils, refined....	16,255	683	2,173
Other vegetable oils, unrefined...	9,003	3,432	23,034
Margarine.....	12,196	3/	3/
Oleo-margarine and oleo oil.....	16,502	3/	3/
Lard.....	161,383	4,501	36,547
Butter 5/	1,066,006	363,859	421,579
Tallow:			
Unrefined.....	54,499	22,391	21,168
Refined.....	46,789	31,471	16,854
Whale oil, unrefined.....	505,543	273,802	265,630
Other animal oils, including fish oil refined.....	66,570	2,500	2,939
Other fish and marine oils, unrefined.....	44,551	37,012	26,797
Soap.....	19,831	73	687

1/ Preliminary 2/ Not separately classified prior to 1948 3/ Not shown separately in monthly publication. 4/ Include oilseeds, nuts and kernels for expressing oil. 5/ There were 8.9 million pounds of butter re-exported in 1938.

L A T E N E W S

(Continued from Page 328)

value basis during the base period July 1, 1946 to June 30, 1947. This category was later raised to 70 percent and since April 1949 its quota rate has been 80 percent. In the fall of 1948 a separate quota for grapes was established on a value basis at the rate of 70 percent of the 1946-47 imports.

Canned, frozen or other processed fruits and vegetables are still subject to quota restrictions or embargo.

- - - - -

CORRECTION

The Article headlined "Hungarian Apples Sold to the State" in Foreign Crops and Markets of September 26, 1948 should have read: "Bulgarian Apples Sold to the State". The opening sentence also should have read: "Apple growers in Bulgaria," etc.

- - - - -